

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Original). A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence: Asp-Ser-Val-Cys-Pro-Gln-Gly-Lys-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Gln-X-Asn-Ser (SEQ ID NO:1) wherein X is an unidentified amino acid residue, and said polypeptide has the ability to interact with TNF in such a manner as to:

(a) inhibit the binding of TNF to a TNF receptor;
and

(b) inhibit the cytotoxic effect of TNF.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Original). A recombinant DNA molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence:

Asp-Ser-Val-Cys-Pro-Gln-Gly-Lys-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Gln-X-Asn-Ser
(SEQ ID NO:1)

wherein X is an unidentified amino acid residue and said polypeptide has the ability to interact with TNF in such a manner as to inhibit the binding of TNF to a TNF receptor and to inhibit the cytotoxic effect of TNF, or

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(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a fragment of said polypeptide, wherein said fragment has the ability to interact with TNF in such a manner as to inhibit the binding of TNF to a TNF receptor and to inhibit the cytotoxic effect of TNF.

4. (Original). An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule in accordance with claim 1

5. (Original). An expression vector comprising a DNA molecule in accordance with claim 3.

6. (Original). A host cell comprising an expression vector in accordance with claim 4.

7. (Currently Amended). A host cell comprising an expression vector in accordance with claim 7 5.

8. (Currently Amended). A method of producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and capable of interacting with TNF, comprising culturing a host cell in accordance with claim 6 and recovering the polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 produced thereby, which is capable of interacting with TNF.

9. (Currently Amended). A method of producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, and capable of interacting with TNF, comprising culturing a host cell in accordance with claim 7 and recovering the

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polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1

produced thereby, which is capable of interacting with TNF.